been held up due to adverse weather conditions in Canada. The original shipment schedule was from 1st to 28th February, 1997. As per the latest information (as on 27.2.1997) the delay in shipments of Canadian wheat consignments would be to the extent of 2 to 3 weeks.

(c) A quantity of 2.50 lakh MT of wheat has been contracted for import from Canada at the rate of US$ 152.50 per MT FOB. The total FOB value of 2.50 lakh MTs works out to US$ 38.12 million.

(d) Yes, Sir. Apart from Canada, contracts for import of wheat from Australia and Argentina as per details given below have also been signed:

Country	Quantity lakh MT	Rate US$ per MT
Australia	10.00	148.00 FOB
Australia	3.25	156.00 FOB
Argentina	1.00	173.00 C&F

(e) Government have decided to import upto 2 million tonnes of wheat during 1996-97.

Review of Levy Sugar Prices

933. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since reviewed the levy sugar prices as per decision taken by the Supreme Court recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount to be paid to the sugar industry and by when the payment is proposed to be made?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c) The implications of the Supreme Court's judgement dated 28.1.1997 particularly regarding the modalities of implementation are being studied.

Diversion of Wheat by FCI to Traders at Lower Rates

934. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Corporation of India diverted wheat to traders at Hyderabad at lower rate as reported in Newstime dated the 17th January, 1997;

(b) if so, the fact thereof; and

(c) the measures taken to increase the storage capacity of the godowns in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The open sale prices are fixed by the Government from time to time after taking relevant factors into consideration.

(c) Sufficient storage capacity for storing foodgrains in A.P. Region is available. This is around 15.0 lakh M.T. FCI also acquires additional storage capacity from Central Warehousing Corporation and State Warehousing Corporation and other agencies as and when the need is felt.

Wheat Crisis in Andhra Pradesh

935. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether inspite of wheat crisis prevailing in Andhra Pradesh the Food Corporation of India disposed of 5750 tonnes of wheat during last 4 months at lower rates;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to check proper use of the wheat meant for PDS in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA